

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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11

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 USIA-15 /042 W

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R 201710Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO AMEMBASSY ZURICH

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2761

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

UNCLAS ATHENS 1620

EO 11652 NA

TAGS SCUL GR

SUBJ: BREAD AND PUPPET THEATRE

REF STATE 34077-C

BREAD AND PUPPET THEATRE OPENED FEB 18 WITH NEARLY FULL
HOUSE IN ATTENDANCE AT LARGE DOWNTOWN THEATRE.

AUDIENCE, WHICH INCLUDED LEADING THEATRE AND CULTURAL
PERSONALITIES WAS LARGELY YOUNG TO MIDDLE AGE AND REACTED
FAVORABLY TO THE PERFORMANCE. IT APPEARED TO ENJOY ABOVE
ALL THE COSTUMED AND MASKED DANCERS ON HIGH STILTS AND NOT
SURPRISINGLY THE BITING VAUDEVILLE TYPE SATIRE OF UNCLE SAM,
GEORGE WASHINGTON, PATRIOTISM AND WAR IN A SKETCH CALLED
AMERICAN CIRCUS. THE OTHER TWO MAJOR SKETCHES ENTITLED
STATIONS OF THE CROSS AND THE SACRIFICE OF THE WHITE HORSE
WERE ALSO WELL RECEIVED THOUGH MUCH OF THE SYMBOLISM
ESCAPED EVEN SOPHISTICATED VIEWERS.

ON THE WHOLE THE FIRST TWO NIGHTS MUST BE CONSIDERED A
THEATRICAL SUCCESS AND WRITTEN CRITIQUES TO DATE CONFIRM
IT. AS FOR BITING SATIRE OF AMERICAN ARENA, EVEN IT LEAVES
THE AUDIENCE WITH A STRONG SENSE OF THE EXTRAORDINARY
LIBERTY AND CREATIVITY OF AMERICAN SOCIETY.

SEE REFTEL FOR OTHER DETAILS ON TROUPE.

KUBISCH

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NNN

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